

House Bill No. 45 by Birkner

I disapprove and am vetoing and filing with the Secretary of State House Bill 45. This is the so-called County Clerks Fee Bill which lists the fees which can be charged by County Clerks for their services.

Since passage of this bill, I have been contacted by many County Clerks and representative of the Bar. They all agree that there is a need for a fee revision bill, but all of the officials who have contacted my office have uniformly been against this bill. The basis for the opposition is the unevenness of the fees provided. Rather than attaining the sought after purposes of standardization of fees, the bill actually authorizes disproportionate fees for comparable services. Moreover, for the first time, all political subdivisions, including the State of Texas, would be required to pay these fees to the County Clerk.

Since I share these objections voiced by the County Clerks and the Bar, I disapprove House Bill 45.

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